

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present patent application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Of previously pending claims 1-18, claims 1-12 were allowed and claims 13-18 were rejected. Claims 13-18 have been canceled.

Therefore, in view of the amendments above, the applicants respectfully request that claims 1-12 be allowed, and the case be passed to issue. If a telephone conference would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is asked to call the undersigned at (408) 868-4088.

Respectfully submitted,

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